

Message Text

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TAGS: TGEN, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: ELECTROMETALLURGY (01.03)

REF: STATE 45993, MOSCOW 907

1. PLEASE TRANSMIT FOLLOWING GRANT LETTER TO ANTONOV,
WITH COPIES TO GLEBOV AND INASHVILI.

2. 01.03 - MARCH 8, 1978

DR. S. P. ANTONOV
STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY, USSR
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
MOSCOW, U.S.S.R.

DEAR DR. ANTONOV:
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AS I HAD INDICATED IN MY LAST CORRESPONDENCE WITH YOU,
I WAS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH THE TYPE OF PROGRAM
PROPOSED BY THE SOVIET GROUP ON FRACTURE OF METALS, WITH
EMPHASIS ON FATIGUE BEHAVIOR. I HAVE ALREADY MADE
INQUIRIES ON OUR SIDE TO ESTABLISH THE PROBABLE LEVEL OF
RESEARCH SUPPORT. IN ADDITION, I'M IN CONTACT WITH

POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS AS US SPECIALISTS FOR THIS PROGRAM. I HOPE THAT WE CAN HAVE THESE DETAILS FINALIZED BY THE TIME OF THE LATE APRIL MEETING.

YOUR PROGRAM PROPOSAL ON SUPERPLASTICITY IS EXCELLENT IN EVERY DETAIL, BUT UNFORTUNATELY THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROPOSED COOPERATION SEEMS TO EXCEED THE TOTAL POTENTIAL OF SUPERPLASTIC FORMING. SUPERPLASTICITY IS A NOVEL DEVELOPMENT WITH SIGNIFICANT PROMISE, BUT WILL ALWAYS BE A RELATIVELY SMALL SCALE OPERATION COMPARED TO OTHER HOT FORMING PROCEDURES.

I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST THAT THERE ARE TWO ALTERNATE ROUTES TO FOLLOW. IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, WE CAN CONCENTRATE ON SUPERPLASTICITY, IN WHICH CASE I WOULD RECOMMEND A VERY MUCH SMALLER COOPERATIVE PROGRAM. ALTERNATIVELY, WE COULD PLAN A LARGER PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDES A NUMBER OF OTHER NEW AND EXCITING HOT FORMING OPERATIONS, OF WHICH SUPERPLASTICITY IS ONE. OTHER HOT FORMING PROCESSES TO CONSIDER COULD INCLUDE HOT ISOSTATIC PROCESSING, HOT MECHANICAL PRESSING, FORGING OF POWDER PREFORMS, METAL WORKING UNDER PRESSURE, AND OTHERS.

IT MIGHT BE AN EXCELLENT IDEA FOR THE SOVIET SIDE TO
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PRESENT FURTHER ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF THE SUPERPLASTIC PROGRAM AT THE TIME OF THE JOINT MEETING AT THE END OF APRIL. AT THAT SAME TIME I WOULD BE PREPARED TO PRESENT COUNTER ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF ONE OF THE TWO CHOICES I'VE LISTED ABOVE. DO YOU THINK THIS IS A WORTHWHILE PLAN?

FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE, WE HAD INDICATED THAT WE WOULD PRESENT A PROGRAM ON THE SUBJECT OF METAL WORKING UNDER PRESSURE. WE HAVE NOT DONE THIS, FOR WHICH I APOLOGIZE, BUT UNFORTUNATELY WE CANNOT AROUSE ANY GREAT ENTHUSIASM AMONG MY COLLEAGUES FOR SUCH A PROGRAM. AGAIN, I THINK THIS IS A HIGHLY SPECIALIZED HOT (SOMETIME COLD) WORKING OPERATION WHICH REALLY DOESN'T DESERVE ANY MORE TIME AND ATTENTION THAN OTHER HOT WORKING PROCESSES. IT'S VERY FAR FROM SHOWING PRACTICAL PROMISE AT THIS TIME. THAT'S WHY I RECOMMENDED ABOVE THAT METAL WORKING UNDER PRESSURE SHOULD INSTEAD PERHAPS BE ONLY A PORTION OF A LARGER TOTAL PROGRAM ON HOT WORKING.

I WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE MATTERS IN MUCH GREATER DETAIL IN APRIL, HOWEVER, I WOULD APPRECIATE

HEARING FROM YOU IF YOU WISH TO PRESENT COUNTER ARGUMENTS
NOW OR IF YOU HAVE FURTHER SUGGESTIONS ON ANY THREE OF

THE ABOVE TOPICS.

ALL BEST WISHES,

SINCERELY,

NICHOLAS J. GRANT
CHAIRMAN, U.S. WORKING
GROUP ON ELECTROMETALLURGY

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MR. GLEBOV
MR. INASHVILI. VANCE

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NNN

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